

## **Reliable Plant**

### **Unique separation program offered to Chrysler workers**

Chrysler LLC, in partnership with the State of Michigan and the United Auto Workers, announced September 12 a first-of-its-kind special programs opportunity for eligible UAW-represented Chrysler employees in the State of Michigan. The joint partnership offers Chrysler employees financial support, job training and placement assistance, in order to ensure that "life after Chrysler" leads to a bright future for Michigan families and the economy of the state.

Chrysler LLC will be offering three programs – Incentive Program for Retirement (IPR), Special Early Retirement (SER) and Enhanced Voluntary Termination of Employment (EVTEP). In Michigan, approximately 13,800 employees are eligible for the three programs, which represents nearly all hourly employees in the state.

"This win-win-win partnership will help employees who are separating from Chrysler land on their feet," said Al Iacobelli, Chrysler vice president for employees relations. "We appreciate the years of dedication and work that the men and women of Chrysler have put into their careers with our organization. We now provide them a chance to reinvest in and reinvent their next career."

These socially responsible programs will be offered above and beyond Chrysler's lump-sum payouts and extended healthcare benefits.

"Providing workers with the training they need is a critical part of our plan to strengthen and diversify Michigan's economy," Governor Jennifer M. Granholm said. "This collaboration between Chrysler, the United Auto Workers, and the State of Michigan is exactly the kind of partnership we need to better position Michigan to thrive in the 21st century economy."

"The UAW is committed to assisting our members to successfully transition to other good paying jobs once they leave Chrysler," said UAW vice president General Holiefield, who directs the union's Chrysler Department. "We know that UAW members, with their total dedication to quality and productivity, can make valuable contributions in a wide range of fields. We believe these programs will help our members apply their skills in new areas."

The announced partnership has three components: Training, Tuition and Placement.

#### ***Training***

The primary focus of the State of Michigan's "No Worker Left Behind" program is to pursue certificates of value, associate's degrees or technical training, which lead to a job in a high-demand occupation. The State of Michigan will work with Chrysler participants to provide:

- Skill and aptitude assessments
- Career counseling
- Crisis intervention and life skills counseling
- Up to two years of training; and
- Support services, such as mentoring and coaching.

"With the help of 'Michigan Works!' agencies and the 'No Worker Left Behind' initiative, every UAW employee separating from Chrysler under retirement, early retirement and voluntary separation will have the opportunity to receive targeted education, training, and support services to prepare for high demand and emerging industry careers," Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth (DLEG) director Keith W. Cooley said. "This win-win-win partnership demonstrates our commitment to retain these workers and help them succeed in making a new life."

#### ***Tuition***

Chrysler has established a special tuition assistance program to provide tuition assistance of up to \$5,000 per year for two years, for a total of \$10,000 per person. Tuition includes instructional costs, books, materials, fees (i.e. application costs, registration, lab fees) and academic support services.

#### ***Placement***

Job placement assistance will be provided through 'Michigan Works!' office locations to help participants take advantage of newly acquired education and training by working directly with training providers and employers. Michigan Works! has more than 100 facilities across the state.

"Matching the skills of our workforce with the needs of our employers is what 'No Worker Left Behind' is all about," DLEG deputy director Andy Levin said. "We must begin with the recognition that none of us can do it alone. We must all work together – citizens, businesses, government, and educational institutions – to build a Michigan workforce with the skills and training to meet the needs of Michigan's existing and emerging economy."

Chrysler LLC will also be providing special relocation and mortgage services for those that are looking to take advantage of refinancing their home or moving to another location.

#### **About No Worker Left Behind**

On August 1, 2007, Granholm announced the "No Worker Left Behind" initiative: an ambitious plan to train 100,000 citizens in three years for jobs in high demand occupations, emerging industries, and entrepreneurial endeavors. No Worker Left Behind gives Michigan workers the opportunity to acquire the skills they need to win good paying jobs in today's global economy. "No Worker Left Behind" provides up to two years of free tuition at any Michigan community college, university or other approved training program for qualifying participants. TO learn more, visit [www.michigan.gov/dleg](http://www.michigan.gov/dleg)

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